142 The skin colour in adult Choroti is brown, newly born children have light yellowish-brown skin, but it soon gets darker, so that even rather young children, figs. 21 and 22, seem to be of a very dark colour. The hair is lank, and the iris dark brown. From Lehmann-Nitsche's and my own anthropological observations I have compiled the following table.

The Choroti: some physical features.

[141]

Sex	Average height, cm	Shape of skull	Skin colour, von Luschan's scale	Hair colour, Fischer's scale	Iris, Martin's scale
Men	[1] 161.6 [2] 170.0	Dolichocephalic, predominantly	22, predominantly	4, predominantly	4, predominantly
Women ...	[3] 153.3 [4] 152.0	Dolichocephalic, predominantly	18, predominantly	4, predominantly	4, predominantly

145 [805] As the Choroti do not keep count of the age of their children, nor of their own, it is impossible to obtain, by direct questioning, from these Indians any information as to the relation of puberty to age in individuals. One of our Creole servants, who had lived a long time on the Chaco, has, however, told me that Indian children arrive early at physical [582] development (fig. 24), and that the girls are considered marriageable after their first menstruation, which, according to my informant, occurs at the age of ten to twelve. And, according to the same person's statement, the boys are ripe for marrying at the age of about fifteen. The blossoming-time of the women is very brief, and as they grow old they often become repulsively ugly. It is notable that the old women, as a rule, were thin of body, whilst elderly men often were inclined to stoutness.

[621] 361 The Choroti live together in villages. The selection of the village site depends primarily on the supply of water and food, and, in the case of cattle-owning Indians, also on grazing conditions. Often the huts are built alongside shade-giving trees (fig. 25). The fan palm found in the [824] Chaco (Copernicia australis), (fig. 10) being valuable to the Indians on account of its easily worked wood, its pith (used for food), and its leaves

[1] Acc. to Lehmann-Nitsche's measurements of 30 individuals.
[2] » » the Author's » 10 »
[3] » » Lehmann-Nitsche's » 10 »
[4] » » the Author's » 13 »

[text continues on p. 37]